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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#6/A
N.C.H.
1-1203

Re Application of:)
André MATTHAEI, et al.)
Serial No. 10/018,462)
Filed: April 25, 2002)
For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PRODUCING)
GRANULATES FROM INTERMEDIATE)
PRODUCTS OF THERMOPLASTIC)
POLYESTERS AND COPOLYESTERS)

ATTY DKT NO. 0137.00019

GROUP ART UNIT: 1498

EXAMINER: tbd

RECEIVED
DEC 26 2002
TC 1700

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
DEC 23 2002
TC 1700

Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-19.

Please add new claims 20-37 as follows.

20. (New) A method for forming drops of preproducts of thermoplastic polyesters or copolyesters like molten monomer, oligomer, monomer-glycol-mixture or of a molten preproduct after a partially polycondensation and a melting of the same, wherein the drops of said preproduct is introduced into a gaseous medium, characterized in that said gaseous medium accelerates the crystallization procedure of said drops of said preproduct having drops of a diameter from 0.3 to 3 mm after said

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